

Marshfield Conservation Commission
168th Meeting
Nov 2, 2022 at Old Schoolhouse
MINUTES

Members Present: Taber Allison, Luke Boushee, Steve Fiske, Bradley Materick, Anne Miller, Bob Popp, and Annie Reed

Others Present: Rich Baker, Marshfield Select Bd

Minutes: October minutes approved unanimously as presented.

Treasurer's Report

- No activity but Bradley updated financial spreadsheet.

Recreation Grant: Rich Baker

- Town has received a technical asst grant (Recreation Economy for Small Communities) to help develop a recreation plan; entails no funding just tech asst. The idea is to promote town as place to live as well as enhancing local economy;
- There are now many efforts but they're not presently coordinated
- The funding agency hires technical consultants to convene a working group and also a 1.5 day workshop open to everyone in town
- Consultants will then assist in drafting the plan
- Looking for steering committee members but also hope MCC members will participate in the workshops
- Present members on committee include Rich Baker, Pam Quinn, Sara Galbraith, reps from town rec committee and Stranahan TF, Greg Western (Cross VT Trail), VT CRD, Dept of FP&R, Central VT Planning, Marshfield Village Store, Forest Farmers and Hollister Hill Farm
- Will have 3 meetings w/ consultant prior to workshop and then another 3 or 4 mtg after the workshop and then some meetings w/o consultants
- Consultants will provide connections with federal & regional funding sources.
- The existing recreation committee is mostly doing things around the village including picnic shelter, ice rink, but this would entail more town wide activities to include backcountry ski trails, mt bike trails, trails on state forest
- **Workshop will be on Jan 27 & 28**, a Friday evening and Saturday
- **Steering Committee Meeting next Weds or Thursday 11 to 12:30 via Zoom.** Other dates TBD.
- Proposing an article at Town Mtg to initiate a dedicated fund for recreation.
- Rec committee would be logical choice to follow up on the plan. ARPA funds are possibility but need to be obligated in 2 yrs & spent in 3. Repairs & upgrades to OSC is 1st priority for ARPA funds
- Interested members to be on steering committee: **Bradley & Anne**

Watershed Grant:

- Received \$2,222 so far and will get balance upon submittal of report which is only outstanding requirement
- **Steve** presented a chart of streams w/ biological assessments and **will provide a link See below**

<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/map/monitor/biomonitoring>

- Steve has submitted data to DEC
- All streams currently classified as B2 but could be moved to higher classification
- Based on results from this study Guernsey Brk qualifies as A.
- Nasmith & Marshfield Brooks both rated B1
- Turtle Pond tributary previously was good, but now excellent.
- Steve suggests that we advocate to have these streams reclassified to Class A or B1

Workday at Stranahan:

- Went well with three members represented.

Natural Resource Inventory:

- Taber has not received any updates but subsequent to the meeting received an email from Brett stating he had one day of field work remaining and Matt was done. They will soon begin drafting the maps and report. Taber invited them to our next meeting to give a summary of findings.
- Appears that they were able to visit at least some parcels in High priority and med priority blocks.
- Taber will try to get updated timetable for the remaining work.

Martin Bridge

- Bradley contacted Bobbi who said she has lots of materials. **Bradley will follow up**
- H has contacted Rich Philips but he had no other documents
- He was unable to contact Mike Zahner
- Bradley is on the Select Bd agenda for Nov 15th meeting. Bradley drafted an outline of mgt plan which **he will forward to the members.**
- We need to determine what entity holds the easement.

Discussion re spending remaining funds

- Zoom account ca \$150 for a year. **Bradley will pursue this**
- Could use remainder to reimburse Ellen for gas for plowing the pollinator garden. **Steve will follow up**

Submitted by: Bob Popp

Submitted on: 7 November, 2022

Approved on: 7 December, 2022